



# Wangaratta RSL Sub-Branch Inc.

## MINUTES

### Committee Meeting

Held on: **Wed 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Time: **1800hrs**

Held: **Via Zoom.**

#### 1.0 Welcome:

The President welcomed all present and declared the meeting open.

#### 2.0 Vales:

<b>QX25010</b>	<b>John Nelson Taylor</b>	<b>ARMY</b>
<b>36642</b>	<b>Donald Richard Tracey</b>	<b>NAVY</b>

#### 3.0 Silent Tribute/ODE:

The President invited all present to stand for the recitation of the ODE.

#### 4.0 In attendance:

Ash Power AO CSC (President), Andrew Kay (Snr Vice President), Ron Sneddon (Vice President), John Bailey JP (Treasurer), Greg Larkins JP (Secretary), Colleen Davis (Committee), Craig Iskov (Committee), Liz Rouse Salmon (Committee), David Lawson JP (Committee), Cameron Abberfield (Committee), Narelle Power (Women's Auxiliary, co-opted member), Chris Simsen (General Manager).



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## 5.0 Apologies:

None.

## 6.0 Conflicts of Interest:

In accordance with section 191 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), the act states that a director who has material personal interest must give other directors notice of any matter that relates to the affairs of the organisation.

**Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.**

None Declared.

## 7.0 Acceptance of New Members:

DATE	NAME	CATEGORY
21 December	Andrew Blyth	Service
21 December	Melissa Blyth	Affiliate
30 December	Michael Nickolls	Affiliate
30 December	David O'Brien	Service
30 December	Maya Gauci	Affiliate
30 December	Valerie Walker	Affiliate
6 January	Robert Osmotherly	Service
14 January	Dennis Mulcahy	Service – Transfer from Phillip Island
22 January	Adrian Seiler	Service
22 January	Aidan Hogan	Service
5 February	Judith Barber	Affiliate
5 February	Pamela Barber	Service
5 February	Tony Hughes	Service

MOTION: That the 13 new members listed be accepted.

MOVED: J Bailey  
SECONDED: Liz Rouse Salmon  
**CARRIED**

## 8.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as circulated be taken as a true and correct record.

MOVED: C Iskov  
SECONDED: L Rouse Salmon  
**CARRIED**



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## 9.0 Business arising from Previous Minutes:

None.

## 10 Correspondence Inwards / Outwards:

### INWARDS

16 Dec	Consumer Affairs Victoria	Approval for HVIC donation.
17 Dec	RSL Vic	Advice for 2020 financial reporting. <b>Copy to Treasurer.</b>
17 Dec	Wangaratta High School	Certificate of thanks for annual scholarships.
18 Dec	RCOW	Advising of flag pole repairs in Memorial Gardens.
18 Dec	Vasey RSL Care	Annual Report.
7 Jan	ANZ	Advising of cancellation of \$875K facility.
7 Jan	ANZ	Confirmation of final draw down.
7 Jan	Air Force Cadets	Requesting a donation for their 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary. <b>Referred to Finance Committee.</b>
9 Jan	Region 9	Vale Ross Kenneth Gregson.
15 Jan	Latrobe Community Health	Older Australians Access. <b>Copy to Welfare Officer.</b>
19 Jan	Region 9	Agenda for February meeting.
19 Jan	RSL Vic	Advice on Fund Raising Forum. <b>Copy to Acting Appeals Coordinator.</b>
25 Jan	Hume Veterans IC	Thank you letter.
5 Feb	RSL Vic	Appeals Update. <b>Copy to Acting Appeals Coord.</b>
6 Feb	Everymans On Patrol	Magazine.
9 Feb	Upper Murray Family Care	Thank you letter.

MOTION: That the inwards correspondence is received.

MOVED: L Rouse Salmon

SECONDED: C Davis

**CARRIED**

### OUTWARDS

17 Dec	Hume Veterans IC	Donation of \$2,000.
28 Jan	Wangaratta Probus Club	Letter of thanks for \$300 bus donation.

MOTION: That the outwards correspondence is endorsed.

MOVED: J Bailey

SECONDED: C Davis

**CARRIED**



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## 11 President's Report:

Pleasingly we have been able to start the year by re-paying some of our debt. Thanks to the Treasurer and GM as they work through the challenges of managing our finances and shedding some of our smaller loans. My thanks also to the Snr VP for representing the Sub-Branch at dinner with the Governor General during his Australia Day visit. Again thanks to the Secretary for attending the Region 9 meeting on my behalf, greatly appreciated. Wayne Taylor from HVIC has advised me that he will be available to work from the Sub-Branch beginning mid-year, and he has thanked us for our donation. We are off to a good start for 2021!!

## 12 Finance Committee:

*Minutes for the meetings held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February will be circulated prior to the meeting.*

MOTION: That the Minutes of the Finance committee meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February be confirmed and recommendations adopted.

MOVED: R Sneddon  
SECONDED: D Lawson  
**CARRIED**

## 13 Executive Committee:

*Minutes for the meetings held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February will be circulated prior to the meeting.*

MOTION: That the Minutes of the Executive committee meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February be confirmed and recommendations adopted.

MOVED: J Bailey  
SECONDED: A Kay  
**CARRIED**

## 14 General Manager's Report: (C Simsen)

- We had an excellent profit for the month of January. GP for food and beverage remained consistent and we were able to also maintain our operational expenses and keep them down. I have now changed to a new bin service that is cheaper than JJ Richards. There is still no news on TITO as they have to fix some server issues they had when their trial venue went live. Once they fix these issues, we will be able to move ahead with the installation of the software and go live. In March we will be moving egms in the gaming room. The plan involves moving more popular egms (20) into a position where they can be played that allows for social distancing.
- Staffing: Leigh our new head chef has settled in nicely. There have been some changes with the staff in the kitchen, 2 have left, and we now have a second apprentice starting and a new casual who completed a trial before lockdown. Leigh is working hard on costing a new menu and also a roster that fits 7 days trade back in. We have had 3 new casuals in the bar start with us in the last couple of weeks. We are still on the hunt for 2 more experienced staff.
- Bus: Since the last meeting - 115 pick ups, 149 drop offs and 28 service member pu/do's.
- Prices increase will be done during the 5-day lockdown ready for Thursday.



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- Building works: Ozmist has now been installed on the river deck. This has been an excellent addition with customers spending more time in that area and more people wanting to sit out there. The feedback has been fantastic. Work orders are in for the steel and blinds. Once the lockdown is over I will contact council and follow up on these with a date for install. Mark Stone from Claytons joinery has measured up the new storage and was waiting on the material. He will build this and come to install it over the next couple of weeks.

MOTION: That the General Manager's report be accepted.

MOVED: C Iskov  
SECONDED: D Lawson  
**CARRIED**

## 15 Charitable Activities Report:

*Report is attached.*

MOTION: That the Charitable Activities report be accepted, and recommendations approved.

MOVED: L Rouse Salmon  
SECONDED: C Abberfield  
**CARRIED**

## 16 Volunteer Hours Report:

For the months of December and January Sub-Branch volunteers logged 627.68 hours of their time. Using the standard Australian volunteer rate of \$39.35 per hour, this equates to a value of \$24,699.20 that was contributed.

## 17 Other Reports:

### 17.1 Women's Auxiliary. (N Power)

#### Wake - John Taylor, 13 Jan 2021

The ladies were asked to cater for the wake of John Taylor on the 13 January for 40 people. The family were appreciative of the efforts of the Auxiliary. Plates of food were sent home with the family. Thank you to the staff for arranging the room dividers.

#### Annual Ball, 15 May 2021

A date has been booked for the Ball and the \$750.00 deposit from last year's cancelled event will be applied to this year invoice. Paris will be hosting the event.

#### Outdoor Plants

The Auxiliary has replaced the 14 bistro deck plants which were in a bad way.

#### AGM

Our AGM will be held on the 18 March 2021. Nomination forms will be available at our next meeting. We have 23 financial members.

#### Next meeting

The next Auxiliary meeting will be held on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 10.30am in the 2/24 Battalion function room.



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## 17.2 Membership. (D Lawson)

Member Type	2020	2021	Variation
Life member	1	1	
Service member	246	245	-1
Affiliate member	423	451	+28
Social member	425	995	+570
Community member	58	6	-52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>+545</b>

**This is an increase over the same time as last year of 47.27%.**

I spoke to the GM this week about coming up with membership promotions, and we will be getting together soon to discuss our suggestions.

My main idea is to sell memberships at the same time as we sell Anzac badges, when the RSL is in a lot of people's minds.

Incentives are another matter that we should pursue. GM has some ideas on this issue too, and he will let me know of them later.

As membership is on the improve, due to the great work by our staff, I feel it is up to us all to promote our wonderful club at every opportunity.

## 17.3 Memorabilia Committee. (D Lawson)

Michele has arranged for the RCOW to loan us some display cabinets and provide signage for the 2/24<sup>th</sup> AIBA memorabilia display that will be on display at the club over the weekend 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April . Michele is meeting with Council Gallery staff on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February to check out the display units.

## 17.4 Library. (Fay Steadman)

I am pleased to take on the role of RSL librarian and have been getting myself up to date with the collection by checking the books on the shelves.

To do this it is necessary to correlate the author's list of books with the book's title list. In doing this it has shown that there appears to be books missing and on the other hand, books that appear on one list and not the other. There are also books, apart from new ones, that do not appear on either list. There are also many duplicate books. I am in the process of adjusting the computer record as necessary. I would like some advice on what to do re missing books.

After discussing with Greg re donation of books to the library I understand that it is at my discretion. Any advice on the selection of books would be appreciated.

There are books that need to be discarded as per previous advice. These are books that are passed their 'use by date' such as encyclopedias. They have been offered to various people but no one wants them, so they will be destroyed.



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**Recommendation 1. Purchase of the book "Shooting Through "by Katrina Kittel. POW experiences of members of Wangaratta's 2/24 Battalion are included. The cost of this book is \$35**

**Recommendation 2. The purchase of book "Warrior's War: Healing the Battle of Trauma and PTSD." This is written by former Wangaratta man Matthew Bruce and is his experience with post traumatic disorder. I feel this would be a good addition to our collection. The cost of this book is \$25.**

I look forward to people accessing the library more in the future.

MOTION: That the Library report be accepted, and recommendations approved.

MOVED: L Rouse Salmon  
SECONDED: R Sneddon  
**CARRIED**

## **17.5 Region 9 meeting report (Secretary)**

The meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2021 was attended by the Secretary. The AGM was held prior to the meeting and Jeff Swain (Yea – Kinglake) was re-elected as Chair with Brian Cossar (Yarrawonga – Mulwala) was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer. The position of Vice Chair to be filled at a later date.

At the general meeting, the guest speaker was Jamie Twidale, CEO of RSL Vic. Jamie gave us his background prior to commencing with RSL Vic and outlined his vision to modernise the RSL in Victoria. He also described the operation of Veteran Central and the 1300MILVET phone service.

Jamie also mentioned that he will be shortly sending out some guidance as to this year's ANZAC Day. Some points of note were:

- Light Up the Dawn promotion will be on again.
- Sub-Branches may hold a modest dawn service (20-30 people) that is closed to the public.
- Ticketed/Registered Gunfire breakfast event.
- No Melbourne march this year but individual SB's may liaise with their local Council to see what may be possible.
- Main Service, again liaise with local Council to see what is possible.
- No ADF support again this year.
- Consider handing out Tea Candles to the local community to support LUTD.

## **17.6 Community Grants (R Sneddon)**

Media presentations have been held for Centre Against Violence (\$8,000) and Upper Murray Family Care (\$5,000) with others planned in the coming weeks.



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## 17.7 Volunteers (C Iskov)

Following the successful Diggers Golf day in 2020, the Wangaratta RSL volunteers have been steadily working away behind the scenes over the last few months. We are now going into the busy period leading up to ANZAC Day with planning underway for badge sales, ceremonial activities and some tidying up work around the buildings amongst other activities. We will shortly be calling for people to be involved.

On February 4th I joined a number of volunteers at the ANZAC Appeal forum held in Cobram. It was a worthwhile day that covered a number of relevant points of fundraising that we can re-focus on. We utilised the new RSL bus and it proved to be a very comfortable for the journey.

I have had discussions on expanding the Volunteers monthly email to add a quarterly Newsletter with feature articles on people, activities and achievements. This idea came from Colleen and Julia and after a recent meeting we feel confident that we will have enough material to create another useful communication tool. While most volunteers do have email, we will have to consider printing a small number to be inclusive of other volunteers.

## 17.8 Commemorative Brick Facings (C Davis)

Sale of the limited offer is planned to commence shortly.

## 18 General Business:

### 18.1 AGM and Annual Report

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March; the Secretary is currently putting the Annual Report together and would like to have all reports from the Committee no later than Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

## 19.0 From the floor:

D Lawson – The new RSL signage installed on the roof is way too small as a result of Council Heritage consultant dictating what we could install. Decision damages our image and RSL asset. Council should be contacted and the situation explained.

President will make contact with Council.

C Davis – Staying in Home seminar on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. Committee encouraged to attend. Covid guidelines need to be sent to La Trobe. GM to arrange.

- Banner on the overpass to promote the ANZAC Appeal. We can get a RCOW permit to put one up. Colleen to look at obtaining an appropriate signage banner.





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- Shelter for the smokers out in the bistro deck are we going to provide something? GM looking into a shade cloth type of shelter.
- New forms, where are they? Cam & GM to forward.

C Iskov - Confirmation of March meeting dates. Next Committee meeting is the 17<sup>th</sup> March & the AGM is the 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 1700hrs.

## **20.0 Confirmation of next Committee Meeting date:**

The next scheduled meeting of Management Committee is Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## **21.0 Meeting Close:**

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 1925hrs.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY